

**INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION MEETING**

**January 13, 2014 6pm
Greensburg Learning Center
422 E Central Ave.
Greensburg IN 47240
812-663-8671**

- A MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6pm
- B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

James Greeson
Burke Jones
Tom Hanify
Arvin Copeland
John Smith

ABSENT

Greg Wyant
Rob Lund

- C. Approval of December 2, 2013 minutes as submitted. Correction on attendance. Arvin Copeland was represented by John Buckman. John Smith made a motion to approve after correction. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.
- D VARIANCE REQUESTS
 - 1. James Redd requested a variance for Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV, Rope Rescue Operations and Trench Rescue Operations and Technician.

James was denied certification in December based on lack of continued education and failure to meet the prerequisites for the rescue certifications. He has submitted records of continued education and transcripts for his Bachelor of Science and Associates of Technical Studies.

Staff recommends denial of the rescue certifications. Also recommend denial of Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV. We acknowledge the college degrees but the courses taken are not relevant to the standard.

James Greeson made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

2. Jason Kelly requested a variance for Safety Officer. Jason has completed class at IFD for Incident Command Safety; he has completed CSDX SAFE program, attended Officer Development programs in 2008, 2009 and 2010 at IFD and has submitted his transcripts for his Associates in Applied Science from John Wood Community College and a Bachelors in Sports Services.

Staff recommends denial due to lack of relevant training and lack of skills.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table the request. Mr. Kelly attended via webinar and had questions, so this was tabled to give Mr. Kelly time to talk with the staff and possibly resubmit with more information. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

3. Kevan Crawley requested variances for Fire Officer II, III, and IV at the December meeting. This request was denied due to lack of information. He had submitted his military training records which did not readily explain what training he had actually had. He has submitted a letter explaining some of the questions that the Board had. One of the issues the Board had was his lack of finance training. His military training has him responsible for over half a billion dollars in equipment, budgeting for equipment and expendable item procurements. He has had experience in decision making in combat in logistics and massive training in other areas that would be above the Fire Officer responsibility.

Staff recommends approval. The training submitted exceeds the standard requirements.

John Smith made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

4. Robin Nicoson, ESEC Training Center, requested a variance for 17 year olds to take Firefighter I/II, HMA, HMO and technical Rescue Awareness, written/practical testing. The students are:

Eli Alexander; Steven Cherry; Austin Yarnell; Austin Hayes; Jordan Hannon; Sean Lamb; Tristan Southwood; Caleb Hoffman; Donovan George; Brenden Birkla; Joshua Waller.

Staff recommends approval.

John Smith made a motion to approve. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

5. William Monohan, Prosser Career Education Center requested a variance for his students to take the Firefighter I/II; Mandatory, Hazmat awareness, Hazmat Operations; and Technical rescue awareness written/practical testing at age 17.

Faith Benham, Whitney Boldery, Devin Burden, Nolan Burton, Shawn Durbin, Michael Harris, Trevor Johnson, Kimberly Jones, Jonathan Jordan, Eddie kaster, Daniel Kelley, Austin Kemp, Tyler Lewis, Lacie Newberry, Nathan Shepherd, Dakota Taylor, Kameran Tye, Kyle Wallace.

Staff recommends approval.

James Greeson made a motion to approve. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion based.

6. Brian Sauer requested a variance for Fire Officer III. Brian has met all prerequisites, and has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Safety Engineering Technology with an emphasis in Fire Protection Administration. He has 15 years of fire service and heavily involved in fire safety, education, and inspection.

Staff recommends approval. Skills were completed and the Fire Officer packet has been submitted.

John Smith made a motion to approve. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

7. Erik requested a variance for Investigator I. He completed the NFA 80 hour course, and he has an Associates in Electrical Engineering Technology and a Bachelor in Electrical & Computer Engineering Technology.

Staff recommends approval based on information submitted.

John Smith made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

8. Robert Dickerson requested variances for the following certifications:

Technical Rescue Awareness; Confined Space rescue Operations and Technician; Firefighter I/II; Rope Rescue Operations and Technician; Structural Collapse Rescue Operations and Technician; Swift Water Rescue Operations and Technician; Trench Rescue Operations and Technician; Vehicle Rescue Operations and Technician and Wilderness Rescue Operations and Technician. Robert has been a firefighter in Indiana since 1981 and has continued education through the last 33 years. He has attending training through the Marion county Rescue task Force, The Progressive Rescue Solutions Inc Course for the rescue classes, SEMA classes, and he completed the 200 hour BERT program.

Staff recommends denial for Firefighter 1½. We have a standard requirements in place and there is no reciprocity for First and second class to Firefighter 1I/II. Deny all other requests due to age of training and no continued education submitted.

James Greeson made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

9. Robert Gliem requested a variance for Rope Rescue Operations and Technician and Confined Space Operations. He has classes from Buck County Community College and Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, 2007 and START Rescue Training Inc for Rope Rescue Technician and Structural Rope and Confined Space Rescue.

Staff recommends denial. No skills were submitted.

John Smith made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

10. Chad Poling requested a variance for Instructor II/III. Chad is a licensed teacher in Indiana. He is an active firefighter at Ft Wayne Fd.

Staff recommends denial. In Indiana teachers are not required to meet the Instructor III standard. When the certifications split, he will be eligible to ask for a variance for Instructor II.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

E. STATE FIRE MARSHAL, JAMES GREESON

We are working on the white paper for the fire academy. We will be presenting it at the next meeting with the group and discussion issues.

We are starting the Fire Marshal Leadership seminars.

January 25 at Decatur IN; Feb 8 at Lafayette, and Feb 22 at Huntingburg. Make sure you register for these, a lot of useful information is given out and a lot is accomplished during these seminars.

I had a meeting with Brian Lott and we discussed mutual aide. I am sending out a document, that is a 6 page document about incident command, asking about the equipment you have on hand. This is gathering the information that we need to be able to assist with mutual aide, letting us know what you have, what you need, and where you could be of the best help. I am asking that you complete this document and send it back, please do not just ignore it.

Introduction of Robert Johnson: new assistant Fire Marshal. Robert has been involved in LEPC, and he has been involved in Hazardous Material teams. He has a lot of years of experience behind him and we look forward to putting him to work.

F. DIRECTOR OF TRAINING, ARVIN COPELAND

Arvin was a career firefighter of 20 years at the Wabash FD. Five of those he was Chief. After he left the fire service he became Mayor of Wabash and then he came to Dept of Homeland Security in response and recovery. He has been with IDHS for 8 years and he is acting Director of Training right now along with his other obligations.

G. STATE FIRE TRAINING REPORT, JOHN BUCKMAN

1. Fire Officer 3 skills
2. Jim Campbell stated that the committee did not change the skills, they simply put them in everyday language and easily understood by everyone.
After reviewing the skills, Tom Hanify made a motion to accept them. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed. The Board wants to thank the committee that worked on this project: Candace Ashby, Eric Funkhouser, James Campbell, Joel Thacker and Brandon Wood.
3. Book committee, Fire Engineering book and test validation
The book committee meeting had to be rescheduled due to weather.
Larry Southard questioned why we had to change books and add to the training when there are too many hours for a class now. Dave Probo explained to him that Fire Engineering did not add hours to a class. The program allows the student to view videos and power points prior to the class so that more time is actually spent doing hands on instead of in a classroom.
Scott Chasteen was present and he was a member of the book committee. He endorses the Fire Engineering material, it is easier to understand, it does not add to classroom time and overall, we felt it was a better product.
David Probo in the week or two will have some of the material on line for everyone to view.
4. On line awareness program for Hazmat Awareness on Acadis LMS
This is coming soon. It is an on line class for hazmat awareness. You still have to take the state exam, but the actual course will be on line and the student can take it at their leisure instead of taking up class time on this.
5. Quality control committee: we are calling everyone that registers a class and talking with them to be sure they know what is needed for the class. This is working really well.
6. Beginning the NFPA Standard updates. More information will be submitted at the Feb. meeting providing we have approval at that time.

Staff is still working on a letter to the Governor explaining why we need the changes.

7. Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I/II.

John Buckman asked the Board to stop this testing. The test is validated to the 2000 standard and training material is no longer available for this. there was a committee that was supposed to update the bank, and skills but so far they have not started the updates.

Mara Snyder stated that you cannot stop the testing as long as we have the certification. If we wanted to stop this then we need to look at repealing the certification.

H. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, JUDGE BIPPUS

No report at this time

I. REQUEST FOR RECIPROCITY.

No report at this time

J. REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL

1. Bryan Fuller is requesting administrative review of his denial of Hazardous Material Technician certification. This was denied because he did not meet the prerequisites.

James Greeson made a motion to send to Judge Bippus. John Smith seconded. Motion passed.

2. Bernard Beier Jr. is requesting administrative review of his denial of Hazardous Material technician certification. This was denied because he did not have the prerequisites.

Tom Hanify made a motion to send to Judge Bippus. Arvin Copeland seconded. Motion passed.

K. OLD BUSINESS

Question was asked about the burn trailer and if was still available. Yes we still have and it still works. You need to contact Brandon Wood, at 317-232-2447 for scheduling.

Question was asked about the legality of the Board with only 5 members 4 eligible to vote. IC 22-12.3-6 states that there must be 5 voting members to have a legal voting Board.

Legal counsel advised that a legal quorum was 5 voting members and since we do have 5 members the Board is legal.

L. NEW BUSINESS

No report at this time

M MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:20 pm

NEXT MEETING:

Feb. 24th 2014
Martinsville FD 6pm
160 W Morgan St
Martinsville IN 46151
765-342-2343
Bob Carter